

GI
FI

a backsheet joined to a fluid pervious topsheet, the backsheet comprising a web; and an absorbent core disposed between the topsheet and the backsheet, the absorbent core comprising absorbent core components wherein a [non-removable] multi-layered first absorbent core component is disposed in at least the crotch region and has an acquisition layer and an acquisition/distribution layer, and at least one removable second absorbent core component is removably disposed in the first waist region and is in fluid communication with the first absorbent core component, and wherein the backsheet further comprises first access means for providing access to the removable second absorbent core component through the backsheet so that the removable second absorbent core component may be removed from the absorbent article through the backsheet without having to remove the absorbent article from a wearer, the first access means comprising a first discontinuity in the web, the first discontinuity being positioned in the first waist region, a first recloseable flap secured over the first discontinuity, and a first fastener for recloseably joining the first flap to the backsheet.

Sub
G2

F2

12. (2nd Amendment) The absorbent article of Claim 11, wherein the acquisition and acquisition/distribution layers of the first absorbent core component [comprises] comprise [a material selected from the group consisting of] fibrous nonwoven materials, fibrous wet-laid web materials, open-celled polymeric foam materials, [absorbent gelling materials, and mixtures thereof] or combinations thereof.

Sub
G3

F3

17. (2nd Amendment) The absorbent article of Claim 11, wherein the second absorbent core component comprises [a material selected from the group consisting of] fibrous nonwoven materials, fibrous wet-laid web materials, open-celled polymeric foam materials, absorbent gelling materials, [and mixtures thereof] or combinations thereof.

Sub
G4

F4

20. (2nd Amendment) The absorbent article of Claim 17, wherein the [material for the] second absorbent core component comprises [a mixture of] fibrous nonwoven materials and open-celled polymeric foam materials.

Sub
G5

F5

32. (Amended) The absorbent article of Claim 17, wherein the [material for the] second absorbent core component comprises [a mixture of] fibrous nonwoven materials and absorbent gelling materials.

Sub
G6

F6

37. (Amended) The absorbent article of Claim 33, wherein the third absorbent core component comprises [a material selected from the group consisting of] fibrous nonwoven

materials, fibrous wet-laid web materials, open-celled polymeric foam materials, absorbent gelling materials, [and mixtures thereof] or combinations thereof.

38. (Amended) The absorbent article of Claim 37, wherein the [material for the] third absorbent core component comprises [a mixture of] fibrous nonwoven materials and open-celled polymeric foam materials.

39. (Amended) The absorbent article of Claim 37, wherein the [material for the] third absorbent core component comprises [a mixture of] fibrous nonwoven materials and absorbent gelling materials.

Please add the following new Claims 82-89:

Claim 82. The absorbent article of Claim 12, wherein the acquisition and acquisition/distribution layers of the first absorbent core component comprise fibrous nonwoven materials and open-celled polymeric foam materials.

Claim 83. The absorbent article of Claim 12, wherein the fibrous nonwoven materials of the acquisition and acquisition/distribution layers are polyester fiber materials, polyethylene fiber materials, polypropylene fiber materials, cotton fiber materials, cellulose fiber materials, chemically stiffened cellulose fiber materials, twisted cellulose fiber materials, curled cellulose fiber materials, eucalyptus fiber materials, or combinations thereof.

Claim 84. The absorbent article of Claim 12, wherein the acquisition and acquisition/distribution layers of the first absorbent core component further comprise absorbent gelling materials.

Claim 85. The absorbent article of Claim 11, wherein the first absorbent core component further comprises a storage/redistribution layer.

Claim 86. The absorbent article of Claim 85, wherein the storage/redistribution layer of the first absorbent core component comprises fibrous nonwoven materials, fibrous wet-laid web materials, open-celled polymeric foam materials, absorbent gelling materials, or combinations thereof.--

Claim 87. The absorbent article of Claim 86, wherein the storage/redistribution layer of the first absorbent core component comprises fibrous nonwoven materials and open-celled polymeric foam materials.